



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 05-3285

**PARTIES ARE INVITED TO COMMENT ON THE PETITION OF
FARMERS CELLULAR TELEPHONE, INC. FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN ALABAMA**

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

CC Docket No. 96-45

Release Date: December 22, 2005

Comment Date: January 6, 2006
Reply Comment Date: January 20, 2006

Interested parties are invited to comment on the petition filed by Farmers Cellular Telephone, Inc. (Farmers Cellular) seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in areas of Alabama, including non-rural local exchange carriers wire centers served by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and CenturyTel of Alabama, LLC and the entire study area of the rural carrier, Farmers Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., pursuant to section 214(e)(6) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.¹

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules. 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments on or before **January 6, 2006**, and reply comments on or before **January 20, 2006**. Comments may be filed using (1) the Commission's Electronic Comment filing System (ECFS), (2) the Federal Government's eRulemaking Portal, or (3) by filing paper copies.²

Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs/> or the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.³ Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic

¹ See Farmers Cellular Telephone, Inc. Petition to Amend Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designated Areas in Alabama, CC Docket 96-45, filed May 29, 2005. See also 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(6). We note that Farmers Cellular Telephone, Inc. should provide copies of its petition to the relevant state commissions if it has not already done so. In addition, the Commission will send a copy of this Public Notice to the relevant state commissions by overnight express mail to ensure that they are notified of the notice comment period.

² See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (1998).

³ Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Federal eRulemaking Portal website for submitting comments.

copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to <ecfs@fcc.gov>, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply. Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking appears in the caption of this proceeding, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail).

The Commission's contractor, Natek, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002.

- The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners.
- Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.
- U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554.
- All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

People with Disabilities: to request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this proceeding will be conducted as a permit-but-disclose proceeding in which ex parte communications are permitted subject to disclosure. For further information, contact Mika Savir, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.